

model and mentor to the young girls who have looked to her for help and support. Mickie, thank you for your dedication so much of your time and effort to improving the lives of kids.

Theta Luscumb has been a foster grandparent since 1983. She began at Michener Elementary School but since 1991, Theta has worked at the Onstead Middle School. She is a wonderful source of advice and support to the children who have the privilege to look to her as a role model. An accomplished horsewoman, Theta shares that skill with her kids. Theta, I salute you for your dedication to area children.

Marie Schwalm has been a foster grandparent since 1993. At the Blissfield Elementary School, Marie has demonstrated commitment, compassion, and wisdom in her dealings with young people. Even though she has some trauma in her personal life, nothing has obstructed her determination to serve as a voice of support for kids. Marie, thanks for your dedication.

Those who make an extra effort to help nurture kids and nudge them in the right direction undertake a public service that benefits us all. We owe these women and the many other foster grandparents in Lenawee County and across the nation a debt of thanks.

#### HONORING BRUCE IRA LEVENBERG

##### HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 24, 1998*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, the Association of Jewish Professionals is conferring a well-deserved Leadership in Education award on Bruce Ira Levenberg. Bruce has been a close friend since our days in college together and over the years he has garnered much praise. He has been honored by the American Red Cross and the N.A.A.C.P. He works as a volunteer with AJP Scholarship, the Assisi Project, Holocaust Generations, and is affiliated with Pi Lambda Phi Fraternity. He has been an educator at all levels of schooling and an advocate for children for 28 years. He has earned the praise being given him for his many achievements in education and for helping children. I join his parents, Irving and Sylvia, his wife, Barbara, and their children, David and Jessica in congratulating him.

#### 150 YEARS OF INSPIRATION

##### HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 24, 1998*

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, the strength, stability, and inspiration provided by one's church is one of the most reassuring things in our lives. The congregation of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Frankenlust Township have had the benefit of their church for the past 150 years, and will this Sunday observe their Sesquicentennial as part of their year-long celebration.

St. Paul Lutheran Church was founded by Rev. Ferdinand Sievers and fourteen Bavarian Lutheran immigrants on June 22, 1848 in the barn of Gerhard Dierker near what is now

Saginaw. St. Paul was the first Lutheran congregation in present day Bay County. A log cabin church was dedicated on the present church cemetery site on Squaconnong Creek in Frankenlust Township on November 21, 1849, until a frame church was dedicated on October 4, 1857. The present church was dedicated on December 17, 1905, and has undergone a major renovation in 1977, and significant repairs to the roof, steeple, and entrance following a fire caused by lightning in 1984. The church edifice and cemetery were listed in the Michigan Register of Historic Sites on June 5, 1997.

St. Paul Church has also operated its elementary school since 1848, when Pastor Sievers served as the teacher of five students. The current school, the third in the Church's history, has 101 students ranging from pre-school through the eighth grade.

Since 1848, St. Paul has been served by eleven pastors who have helped to bring the teachings of the church to thousands of people over the past 150 years. Many families have had the privilege of looking back at the importance of St. Paul at moments of joy and others of sadness to themselves and their families. The current pastor, the Rev. Paul D. Theiss, provides spiritual guidance to a baptized membership of one thousand, carrying on a history of sanctuary and encouragement.

Mr. Speaker, we should never underestimate the power of prayer or the influence of one's church. The sesquicentennial of St. Paul Lutheran Church is a special event, and one we wish for so many other places of worship. I ask that you and all of our colleagues join me in wishing Rev. Theiss and the congregation of St. Paul the very best on this occasion, with our fond wishes for many more anniversaries to come.

#### HONORING CASEY SMITH AND NANCY STRIPPEL

##### HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 24, 1998*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to take a moment to recognize two young students from Colorado who best exemplify the spirit of learning and of academics that we pride ourselves upon on the Western Slope. Their names are Casey Smith and Nancy Strippel and they are both Presidential Scholars from Grand Junction, Colorado. They are the only two from our State, and both attend the same high school, Grand Junction High School, which makes their achievements all the more remarkable. They visited our nation's capital this week in order to receive their Presidential Scholar medallions which were presented to them by the Speaker of the House.

Mr. Speaker, as you also know, the United States Presidential Scholars Program was established in 1964, by Executive Order of the President, to recognize and honor some of our Nation's most distinguished graduating high school seniors. In 1970, the program was extended to recognize students who demonstrate exceptional talent in the visual, creative, and performing arts. Each year, up to 141 students are named as Presidential Scholars, one of the Nation's highest honors for high school students. The Scholars are

chosen on the basis of their accomplishments in many areas—academic and artistic success, leadership, and involvement in school and the community. The Scholars represent excellence in education and the promise of greatness in young people. In honoring the Presidential Scholars, the President of the United States symbolically honors all graduating high school seniors of high potential.

The Presidential Scholars Program has honored over 3,700 Presidential Scholars for over 30 years. All these distinguished young people have demonstrated leadership, scholarship, contribution to school and community, and accomplishments in the arts, sciences, or other fields. The work of the Commission on Presidential Scholars reaffirms, on behalf of the President, the Nation's commitment to education that enables people to lead lives of challenge, accomplishment, and fulfillment.

I would also like to commend the work and dedication of Lorena Thompson, their teacher who deserves a great deal of credit for the success of these two scholars. Her devotion to teaching and evident ability to inspire the youth of Colorado, is truly what education is all about. I thank her for her labor on behalf of her students. I also want to congratulate the faculty and staff of Grand Junction High School who also deserve our thanks for the work they do.

Mr. Speaker, let me conclude by saying that I am very proud of the accomplishments of Nancy and Casey, and know that they will achieve even greater success in the next stages of their already remarkable lives.

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO JACK AND MARCHETA OWEN

##### HON. FRANK RIGGS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 24, 1998*

Mr. RIGGS. Mr. Speaker, I want to tell the House of Representatives about two very special people from my Congressional District, Jack and Marcheta Owen of Del Norte County, California. It is especially appropriate to single them out for recognition today, as they approach a milestone in their lives: Jack and Marcheta will be celebrating their fiftieth wedding anniversary on July 11, 1998.

Fifty years can be a long time, but in their case it's just the blink of an eye. They are a busy couple. They have always taken an active interest in their home community of Gasquet and in the affairs of Del Norte County in general.

Del Norte County is a predominately rural region, hundreds of miles from the nearest major city. In communities like these, people rely more on their neighbors than elsewhere. The people of Gasquet and Del Norte County have come to see Jack and Marcheta Owen as people they can depend on to make a lasting and positive contribution. The North Coast of California is a much better place to live, work and raise a family because of Jack and Marcheta Owen. I know the many people whose lives they have touched join with me in wishing Jack and Marcheta well as they prepare to celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

Over the years, their advice to me personally has been invaluable and their friendship